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HIS  
MAJESTIES  
Declaration

To both Houses of  
PARLIAMENT,  
Martii 21. 1641.

*Which He likewise recommends  
to the consideration of all His  
loving Subjects.*

In Answer to that presented to Him at  
*New-Market*, the 9. of March  
1641.

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to the Kings most Excellent Majestie: And  
by the Assignes of JOHN BILL.  
M D C X L I.



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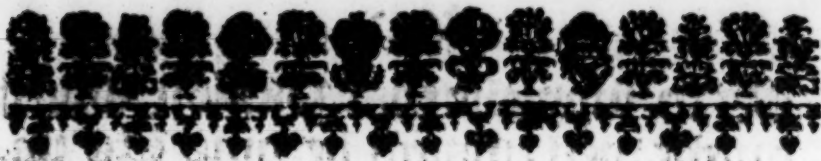
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His Majesties Declaration to  
both Houses of PARLIAMENT,  
Martii 21. 1641.

**T**hough the Declarati-  
on lately presented to  
Us at Newmarket from  
both Our Houses of  
Parliament, be of so  
strange a nature, in  
respect of what we expected (after  
so many Acts of Grace and Favour  
to Our People) and some expressi-  
ons in it so different from the usuall  
Language to Princes, that we  
might well take a very long time to  
consider it, yet the clearnesse and up-  
rightnesse of Our Conscience to  
God; and love to Our Subjects  
hath supplied Us with a speedy An-  
swer; and Our unalterable Affecti-  
on to Our People, prevailed with  
Us

Us to suppress that Passion, which might well enough become Us upon such an Invitation.

We have reconsidered Our Answer of the first of this moneth at Theobalds, which is urged to have given just cause of sorrow to Our Subjects. Whosoever looks over that Message (which was in effect to tell Us, That if we would not joyn with them (in an Act which we conceived might prove prejudicial and dangerous unto Us and the whole Kingdom) they would make a Law without Us, and impose it upon Our People) will not think that sudden Answer can be excepted to.

We have little encouragement to replies of this nature, when we are told of how little value Our words are like to be with you, though they come accompanied with all the Actions of Love and Justice (where there is room for Actions to accompany

paire them) yet we cannot but dis-  
 avow the having any such evill  
 Councell or Councellores about Us,  
 to Our knowbedge, as are men-  
 tioned; and if any such be discover-  
 ed, we will leave them to the Cen-  
 sure & Judgement of Our Parlia-  
 ment. In the mean time we could  
 wish, that Our own immediate  
 Actions (which we avow) and Our  
 owne Honour might not be so  
 roughly censured, and wounded un-  
 der that common Stile of evill  
 Councellores.

For Our faithfull and zealous  
 Affection to the true Protestant  
 Profession, and Our Resolution to  
 concur with Our Parliament in  
 any possible course for the propaga-  
 tion of it, and suppression of popery,  
 we can say no more then we have  
 already expressed in Our Declara-  
 tion to all Our loving Subjects,  
 published in Januarie last by the  
 advice of Our Privie Councell, in  
 which

which we endeavored to make as  
liberly a confession of Our Self in  
this point, as we were able, being  
most assured, that the constant prac-  
tice of Our Life hath been answer-  
able therunto; and therefore we  
did rather expect a testimonie and  
acknowledgement of such Our zeal  
and Pietie then those Expressions  
we meet with in this Declaration,  
of any Designe of altering Religion  
in this Kingdom. And we doe, out  
of the innocencie of Our Soul, wish  
that the Judgements of Heaven  
may be manifested upon those who  
have or had any such Designe.

As for the Scots troubles, we  
had well thought that those unhap-  
py Differences had been wrapt up  
in perpetuall silence by the Act of  
Oblivion, which being solemnly  
past in the Parliaments of both  
Kingdoms, stops Our Mouth  
from any other Reply, then to shew  
Our great dislike for reviving the  
memory thereof. If

If the Rebellion in Ireland (so odious to all Christians) seems to have been framed and maintained in England, or to have any countenance from hence, we conjure both Our Houses of Parliament, and all Our loving Subjects whatsoever, to use all possible means to discover and finde such out, that we may joyne in the most exemplary vengeance upon them that can be imagined. But we must think Our Self highly & causelessly injured in Our Reputation, if any Declaration, Action or Expression of the Irish Rebels, any Letter from Count Rosetty to the Papists, for fasting and praying, or from Trestram Whitcombe, of strange speeches uttered in Ireland, shall beget any jealousie or mis-apprehension in Our Subjects, of Our Justice, Pietie, and Affection, it being evident to all understandings that those mischievous and wicked Rebels are not so capa-

ble of great advantage, as by having their false Discourses so far beleebved, as to raise fears and jealousies to the Distraction of this Kingdom, the onely Way to their security. And we cannot expresse a deeper sence of the sufferings of Our poore Protestant Subjects in that Kingdom, then we have done in Our often Messages to both Houses, by which we have offered, and are still ready to venture Our Royall Person for their Redemtion, well knowing, that as we are (in Our own interest) more concerned in them, so we are to make a strict Account to Almighty God for any neglect of Our Dutie or their Preservation.

For the manifold Attempts to provoke Our late Army, and the Army of the Scots, and to raise a faction in the City of London, and other parts of the Kingdom, if it be said, as relating to Us, we cannot

not without great indignation suffer Our Self to be reproached, to have intended the least force or threatening to Our Parliament, as the being privie to the bringing up of the Army would imply: where-as we call God to witnesse, we never had any such thought, or knew of any such resolution concerning Our late Army. For the Petition shewed to Us by Captain Legg, we well remember the same, and the occasion of that Conference, Captain Legg being lately come out of the North, and repairing to Us at Whitehall, we asked him of the state of Our Armie, and (after some Relation made of it) he told Us That the Commanders and Officers of the Armie had a minde to petition the Parliament, as others of Our People had done, and shewed Us the Copie of a Petition, which we read, and finding it to be very humble, desiring the Parliament

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might

might receive no interruption in the Reformation of the Church and State, to the Modell of Queen Elizabeths dayes, we told him we saw no harm in it: Whereupon he replied, that he beleevd all the Officers of the Army would like it; onely he thought Sir Jacob Ashly would be unwilling to signe it, out of fear that it might displease Us. We then read the Petition over again, and then observing nothing in Matter or Form we conceived could possibly give just cause of offence, we delivered it to him again, bidding him give it to Sir Jacob Ashly, for whose satisfaction we had written C.R. upon it, to testifie Our approbation; and we wish that the Petition might be seen and published, and then we beleve it will appear no dangerous one, nor a just ground for the least Jealousie or Mis-apprehension. For Master Jermyn, it is well known, that he was gone from

from Whitehall before we received the desire of both Houses for the restraint of Our Servants, neither returned he thither, or passed over by any Warrant granted by Us after that time.

For the breach of Priviledge in the Accusation of the Lord Kymbolton and the five Members of the House of Commons, we thought we had given so ample satisfaction in Our severall Messages to that purpose, that it should be no more pressed against Us, being confident, if the breach of Priviledge had been greater then hath been ever before offered, Our Acknowledgement and Retractation hath been greater then ever King hath given; besides the not examining how many of Our Priviledges have been invaded in defence and vindication of the other: And therefore we hoped Our true and earnest Protestation in Our Answer to your Order concerning

cerning the Militia, Would so far have satisfied you of Our intentions then, that you would no more have entertained any imagination of any other designe, then we there exprest. But why the listing of so many Officers, and entertaining them at Whitehall should be misconstrued, we much marvel, when it is notoriously known, the Tumults at Westminster were so great, & their Demeanour so scandalous and seditious, that we had good cause to suppose Our own Person, and those of Our Wife and Children to be in apparent danger; and therefore we had great reason to appoint a Guard about Us, and to accept the dutifull tender of the Services of any of Our loving Subjects, which was all we did to the Gentlemen of the Inns of Court.

For the Lord Digby, we assure you, in the word of a King, that he had Our Warrant to passe the seas,

seas, and had left our Court before we ever heard of the Vote of the House of Commons, or had any cause to imagine, that his absence would have been excepted against.

What your Advertisements are from Rome, Venice, Paris, and other parts; or what the Popes Nuntio solicites the Kings of France or Spain to do, or from what persons such Informations come to you, or how the credit and reputation of such persons have been sifted and examined, we know not, but are confident, no sober honest Man in our Kingdoms can believe, that we are so desperate, or so senselesse to entertain such Designs, as would not onely bury this our Kingdom in sudden distraction and ruine, but our own Name and Posterity in perpetuall scorn and infamy: And therefore we could have wished, that in  
Matters

Matters of so high and tender a nature, (Wherewith the mindees of our good Subjects must needs be startled) all the Expressions were so plain and easie, that nothing might stick with them with reflection on Us, since you thought fit to publish it at all.

And having now dealt thus plainly and freely with you by way of Answer to the particular grounds of your Fears, we hope (upon a due consideration and weighing both together) you will not finde the grounds to be of that moment to beget, or longer to continue a Misunderstanding betwixt Us, or force you to apply your selves to the use of any other power, then what the Law hath given you, the which we alwayes intend shall be the measure of our own Power, and expect it shall be the rule of our Subjects obedience.

Concerning Our Fears and Jealousies,

lousies, as we had no intention of  
 accusing you, so are we sure no  
 words spoken by Us (on the sud-  
 den at Theobalds) will bear that in-  
 terpretation. we said for Our Re-  
 sidence neer you, we wisht it might  
 be so safe and honourable, that we  
 had no cause to absent Our Self  
 from Whitehall: & how this can be a  
 breach of Priviledge of Parliament,  
 we cannot understand: we explain-  
 ed Our Meaning in Our Answer at  
 New-market, at the presentation of  
 this Declaration, concerning the  
 printed seditious Pamphlets and  
 Sermons, and the great Tumults  
 at Westminster: And we must appeal  
 to you and all the world, whether  
 we might not justly suppose Our  
 Self in danger of either: And if we  
 were now at Whitehall, what securi-  
 ty have we that the like shall not be  
 again: especially if any Delin-  
 quents of that nature have been ap-  
 prehended by the Ministers of Ju-  
 stice

flice, and been rescued by the people,  
 and so as yet escape unpunished. If  
 you have not been informed of the  
 seditious words used in, and the cir-  
 cumstances of, those Tumults, and  
 will appoint some way for the exa-  
 mination of them, we will require  
 some of Our learned Councell to  
 attend with such evidence as may  
 satisfie you: and till that be done, or  
 some other course taken for Our se-  
 curity, you cannot (with reason)  
 wonder that we intend not to be  
 where we most desire to be.

And can there yet want evidence  
 of Our hearty and importunate de-  
 sire to joyne with Our Parliament  
 and all Our faithfull Subjects, in  
 defence of the Religion and pub-  
 lique good of the Kingdom: Have  
 we given you no other earnest but  
 words to secure you of those desires:  
 The very Remonstrance of the  
 House of Commons (published in  
 November last) of the State of  
 the

the Kingdom; allows Us a more  
 than Testimony of Our good Af-  
 fection: that words: that Remon-  
 strance bailed Our Rights of Grace  
 and Justice at so high a rate, that it  
 declared the Kingdom to be then a  
 galler; though it had charged it self  
 by Bills of Subsidies and Pote-  
 money; with the levy of 600000. li.  
 besides the contracting of a Debt to  
 Our Scots Subjects of 220000. li.  
 And the Bills for the Perpetuall  
 Parliament; for relinquishing Our  
 Title of imposing upon Our Par-  
 liament, and power of printing of Soul-  
 diers; for the taking away the Star-  
 Chamber and High Commission  
 Courts, for the Regulating the  
 Coinage and our Woods; for  
 the taking the Forests, the Statu-  
 tory Courts, the Cities of the War-  
 heron and the running away the Votes  
 of Bishops out of the Lords House,  
 and words. Lastly, what greater  
 earnest of Our trust and reliance

on Our Parliament could, or can  
 we give, then the passing of the Bill  
 for the continuance of this present  
 Parliament: the length of which,  
 we hope, will never alter the nature  
 of Parliaments, and the constituti-  
 on of this Kingdom, or incite Our  
 Subjects so much to abuse Our  
 Confidence, as to esteem any thing  
 fit for this Parliament to do, which  
 were not, if it were in Our power  
 to dissolve it too morrow. And af-  
 ter all these, and many other Acts  
 of Grace on Our part (that we  
 might be sure of a perfect reconcilia-  
 tion betwixt Us and all Our Sub-  
 jects) we have offered and are still  
 ready to grant a free and generall  
 pardon, as ample as your selves  
 shall think fit. Now if these be not  
 reall Expressions of the Affections  
 of Our Soul for the publique good  
 of Our Kingdom, we must con-  
 fesse that we want skill to mani-  
 fest them.

To

To conclude (though we think  
 Our Answer already full to that  
 point) concerning Our Return to  
 London, we are willing to declare,  
 That we look upon it as a matter  
 of so great weight, as with refer-  
 ence to the Affairs of this King-  
 dom, and to Our own Inclinati-  
 ons and Desires, that if all we can  
 say or do, can raise a mutuall Con-  
 fidence (the onely way, with Gods  
 blessing, to make Us all happy) and  
 by your incouragement the Lords  
 of the Land, and the Government  
 of the City of London, may recover  
 some life for Our security, we will  
 overtake your desires, and be as  
 soon with you as you can wish: And  
 in the mean time we will be sure  
 that neither the businesse of Ireland,  
 or any other Advantage for this  
 Kingdom, shall suffer through our  
 Default, or by our Absence. We  
 being so far from repenting the

